

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor;  
plotting the data list on a histogram;  
analyzing the histogram;  
determining if the histogram contains more than one peak; and  
responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak, updating a default template parameter value.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak,  
determining if the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, updating the default template parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, analyzing any histogram peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of any of the histogram peaks, analyzing a histogram peak;

determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than a template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the analyzed peak is less than the template creation threshold, creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 3 for every parameter in the default template.
5. The method of claim 2 wherein updating the default template parameter value comprises: averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein developing the data list comprises: adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second method comprising:
  - comparing the modified template to a default template;
  - increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and
  - increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.
8. A method comprising:
  - analyzing a plurality of peaks on a histogram;

determining if a default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak, updating the default template parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak, analyzing any peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of any of the histogram peaks, analyzing a histogram peak;

determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold, creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peaks.

10. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor; and  
plotting the data list on the histogram.

11. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

determining if the histogram contains more than one peak;

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak, updating a default template parameter value; and

wherein the analyzing a plurality of peaks on a histogram step occurs responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak.

12. The method of claim 8 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 8 for every parameter in the default template.

13. The method of claim 8 wherein updating the default template parameter value comprises: averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.

14. The method of claim 8 wherein developing the data list comprises: adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.

15. The method of claim 8 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second method comprising:

comparing the modified template to a default template;

increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and

increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.

16. A method comprising:

creating a histogram;

determining if a standard deviation for a histogram peak is less than a template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold, creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak, determining if a default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peaks;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, updating the default template parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, analyzing any peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

18. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, analyzing a histogram peak;

determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the analyzed peak is less than the template creation threshold, creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

19. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor;  
plotting the data list on the histogram; and  
analyzing the histogram.

20. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

determining if the histogram contains more than one peak; and  
responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak, updating a default template parameter value.

21. The method of claim 16 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 16 for every parameter in the default template.

22. The method of claim 16 wherein updating the default template parameter value comprises: averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.

23. The method of claim 16 wherein developing the data list comprises: adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.

24. The method of claim 16 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second method comprising:

comparing the modified template to a default template;

increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and

increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.

25. A program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising:

a computer-usable medium;

wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising:

instructions for developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor;

instructions for plotting the data list on a histogram;

instructions for analyzing the histogram;

instructions for determining if the histogram contains more than one peak; and

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak,

instructions for updating a default template parameter value.

26. The program product of claim 25 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak,

instructions for determining if the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, instructions for updating the default template parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, instructions for analyzing any histogram peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

27. program product of claim 26 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of any of the histogram peaks, instructions for analyzing a histogram peak;

instructions for determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than a template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the analyzed peak is less than the template creation threshold, instructions for creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

28. program product of claim 27 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 27 for every parameter in the default template.

29. program product of claim 26 wherein the instructions for updating the default template parameter value comprise: instructions for averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.

30. program product of claim 25 wherein the instructions for developing the data list comprise: instructions for adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and instructions for recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.

31. program product of claim 25 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second set of instructions comprising:

instructions for comparing the modified template to a default template;



instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and

instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.

32. A program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising:

a computer-usable medium;

wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising:

instructions for analyzing a plurality of peaks on a histogram;

instructions for determining if a default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak, instructions for updating the default template parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peak, instructions for analyzing any peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

33. The program product of claim 32 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of any of the histogram peaks, instructions for analyzing a histogram peak;

instructions for determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold, instructions for creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peaks.

34. The program product of claim 32 further comprising:

instructions for developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor; and

instructions for plotting the data list on the histogram.

35. The program product of claim 32 further comprising:

instructions for determining if the histogram contains more than one peak;

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak, instructions for updating a default template parameter value; and

wherein the instructions for analyzing a plurality of peaks on a histogram step occurs responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak.

36. The program product of claim 32 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 32 for every parameter in the default template.

37. The program product of claim 32 wherein the instructions for updating the default template parameter value comprise: averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.

38. The program product of claim 32 wherein the instructions for developing the data list comprise: adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.

39. The program product of claim 32 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second set of instructions comprising:

instructions for comparing the modified template to a default template;

instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and

instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.

40. A program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising:

a computer-usable medium;

wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising:

instructions for creating a histogram;

instructions for determining if a standard deviation for a histogram peak is less than a template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold, instructions for creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

41. The program product of claim 40 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains more than one peak, instructions for determining if a default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of a histogram peaks;

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, instructions for updating the default template

parameter value using the data for the peak which is within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value; and

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, instructions for analyzing any peaks that are not within one standard deviation of the default template parameter value.

42. The program product of claim 40 further comprising:

responsive to a determination that the default template parameter value is not within one standard deviation of the histogram peak, instructions for analyzing a histogram peak;

instructions for determining if a standard deviation for the histogram peak is less than the template creation threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the standard deviation for the analyzed peak is less than the template creation threshold, instructions for creating a new template using the average from the analyzed peak.

43. The program product of claim 40 further comprising:

instructions for developing a data list from a modified template and an effectiveness factor;

instructions for plotting the data list on the histogram; and

instructions for analyzing the histogram.

44. The program product of claim 40 further comprising:

instructions for determining if the histogram contains more than one peak; and

responsive to a determination that the histogram contains one peak, instructions for updating a default template parameter value.

45. The program product of claim 40 further comprising: repeating the steps in claim 16 for every parameter in the default template.
46. The program product of claim 40 wherein the instructions for updating the default template parameter value comprise: instructions for averaging a modified template parameter value with the default template parameter value to obtain an updated template parameter value.
47. The program product of claim 40 wherein the instructions for developing the data list comprise: instructions for adjusting a modified template parameter value using the effectiveness factor; and recording the modified template parameter value in the data list.
48. The program product of claim 40 wherein the effectiveness factor is determined using a second set of instructions comprising:
  - instructions for comparing the modified template to a default template;
  - instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when a consultant does not have to modify a default template parameter value; and
  - instructions for increasing the effectiveness factor when the default template accurately represents a company's processes.